

God's Story Your Story

March 29, 2015



Matthew 21:9

Faith 5 – A pattern for shaping a life of faith

Share:

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

Read: Reflect on the key verse from Sunday's reading.

The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" Matthew 21:9

Talk:

- What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?
- Where do you see the presence of a dying Jesus in the world today? Where do you see the presence of a resurrected Jesus?
- What are you most afraid of? How can Jesus' presence in your life help you overcome your fear?

Pray:

Hosanna! Today we celebrate your coming into the city of Jerusalem, and into our lives. Sustain this joy in us today and all days, for the glory of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Bless:

God who comes in peace, sharpen our awareness to hear what is not said in your word today. Amen.

Some Background

Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time, venerated and adored as the king who would redeem Israel and save her from the oppression of Rome. The people had no way of knowing that Jesus' purpose was much greater; to save people from sin and death.

Many things in this story indicated that the people were celebrating Jesus as a king. The donkey and the colt, the spreading of cloaks and the branches were all signs of royalty. The people shouted, "Hosanna!" which means "save, rescue, savior." They acknowledged Jesus as a prophet, which meant that his actions were directed and blessed by God. A good king would protect the people from harm, provide basic human needs (food, shelter, safety) for his kingdom, and rule with justice.

Follow the stories of Jesus' final days on the earth.

Sunday, Matthew 21:1-13, *Triumphal Entry*

Monday, Psalm 118:26-29, *Psalm*

Tuesday, Matthew 27:1-14, *Passion*

Wednesday, Matthew 27:15-26, *Passion*

Thursday, Matthew 26:17-30, *Words of Institution*

Friday, Matthew 27:27-61, *Crucifixion*

Saturday, Matthew 27:62-66, *The Guard at the Tomb*